

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04173.0506

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re National Phase of International)
Application No. PCT/JP2004/005342)
under 35 U.S.C. 371 of:)
Iwao YAMAZAKI) Group Art Unit:
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned) Examiner:
Filed: March 10, 2006)
For: **TREATMENT APPARATUS**)

MAILSTOP PCT

**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. JP 10-15006 - An English-language abstract of the document is enclosed.
2. Deutschland Patent Application No. DE 670160
3. Japanese Patent Application No. JP 11-197200 - An English-language abstract of the document is enclosed.
4. Japanese Patent Application No. JP 61-34924
5. Japanese Patent Application No. JP 48-27393
6. French Patent Application No. FR 1576131
7. Deutschland Patent Application No. DE 1782247
8. Japanese Patent Laid-Open Application No. Hei JP 9-122192 - An English-language abstract of the document is enclosed. The relevance of this document is also discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.
9. WO 97/07767 - An English-language abstract of the document is enclosed.
10. Japanese Patent Laid-open Application No. Hei JP 10-327936 - An English-language abstract of the document is enclosed. The relevance of this document is also discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

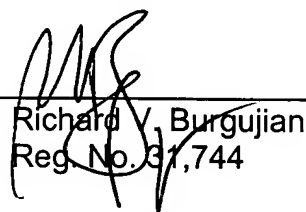
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 10, 2006

By: _____


Richard Y. Burgujian
Reg. No. 37,744

Enclosures
RVB/FPD/rac

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)	
Sheet	1	of	1	Application Number	
				Filing Date	March 10, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Iwao YAMAZAKI
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
				Attorney Docket Number	04173.0506

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-3,517,235	06-23-1970	FLOWERS, ET AL.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 10-15006	01-20-1998	KATO, ET AL.		ABSTRACT
		DE 670160	01-12-1939	SCHWANKE		NO
		JP 11-197200	07-27-1999	MATSUMOTO		ABSTRACT
		JP 48-27393	08-22-1973	SPERRY LAND CORP.		NO
		JP 61-34924	03-04-1986	KANEBO, LTD.		NO
		FR 1576131	07-25-1969	SPERRY LAND CORP.		NO
		DE 1782247	08-12-1971	SPERRY LAND CORP.		NO
		JP 9-122192	05-13-1997	TAKEUCHI		ABSTRACT
		WO 97/07767	03-06-1997	TAKEUCHI		ABSTRACT
		JP 10-327936	12-15-1998	OOWADA		ABSTRACT

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		International Search Report dated August 10, 2004 for International Application No. PCT/JP2004/005342	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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